

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2626

Introduced by Assembly Members Jones-Sawyer and Bonta

February 19, 2016

An act to add Section 13519.45 to the Penal Code, relating to peace officer standards and training.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2626, as introduced, Jones-Sawyer. Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training: procedural justice training.

Existing law establishes the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training and requires it to develop and disseminate guidelines and training for law enforcement officers, as described.

This bill would require the commission to develop and disseminate guidelines and training for peace officers on principled policing, which would include the subjects of procedural justice and implicit bias, as defined. The bill would require this training as part of the basic training course for peace officers. The bill would also require the commission to develop and disseminate guidelines and training to train peace officers to teach the course of basic training on principled policing to other officers in their agencies. The bill would require the commission to offer the basic principled policing course and the training course semiannually commencing in June 2017.

By requiring additional basic training for peace officers, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 13519.45 is added to the Penal Code, to
2 read:
3 13519.45. (a) (1) The commission shall develop and
4 disseminate guidelines and training on principled policing,
5 specifically procedural justice and implicit bias, for all peace
6 officers described in subdivision (a) of Section 13510.
7 (2) “Procedural justice” means the procedures used by police
8 officers where citizens are treated fairly and with proper respect
9 as human beings.
10 (3) “Implicit bias” means thoughts or feelings about people of
11 which one is unaware and can influence one’s own and others’
12 actions.
13 (4) The course or courses of instruction and the guidelines shall
14 stress procedural justice as a strategy for improving the relationship
15 of trust between law enforcement and communities and how
16 implicit bias can be a barrier to procedural justice.
17 (b) The course of basic training for peace officers shall include
18 adequate instruction on procedural justice and implicit bias in order
19 to foster mutual respect and cooperation between law enforcement
20 and communities. The curriculum shall be evidence-based and
21 shall be developed in consultation with appropriate groups and
22 individuals who have expertise in procedural justice or implicit
23 bias, including, but not limited to, law enforcement agencies that
24 have demonstrated experience in procedural justice or implicit
25 bias training, university professors who specialize in addressing
26 and reducing racial and identity bias towards individuals and
27 groups, and community organizations or members who specialize
28 in civil or human rights and criminal justice. The course of
29 instruction shall include, but not be limited to, consideration of
30 each of the following subjects:

1 (1) Procedural justice as a strategy for improving the relationship
2 of trust between law enforcement agencies and the communities
3 they are sworn to serve.

4 (2) Implicit bias as a barrier to procedural justice.

5 (3) Historical and generational effects of policing.

6 (4) Interactive nature of policing goals, procedural justice, and
7 implicit bias.

8 (c) The commission shall also develop and disseminate
9 guidelines and training to train peace officers to be able to
10 effectively teach the course of basic training on principled policing.

11 The training course shall be structured so that experts on procedural
12 justice and implicit bias train small groups from law enforcement
13 agencies to be able to effectively teach the concepts, principles,
14 and research behind procedural justice and implicit bias to
15 colleagues within their departments. Participating law enforcement
16 agencies shall send at least one police executive and one training
17 officer to the training course. Law enforcement agencies are
18 encouraged to attend the training course with at least one
19 community member. Upon completion of the training course, peace
20 officers from participating law enforcement agencies shall be
21 certified by the commission to conduct the course of basic training
22 on principled policing for colleagues in their respective agencies.

23 (d) The commission shall offer the course of basic training on
24 principled policing and the training course on a semiannual basis
25 in regional training centers across the state commencing in June
26 2017.

27 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
28 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
29 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
30 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
31 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.